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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE VIA FAX TO (703) 872-9306 ON DATE OF DEPOSIT: December 30, 2003

PERSON TRANSMITTING: ANNE VACHON DOUGHERTY

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 30, 2003 In Re Application of : Group Art No.: 3623 M. Verdi, et al Examiner: M. C. Heck Serial No. 09/522,162 IBM Corporation Filed: March 9, 2000 Anne Vachon Dougherty 3173 Cedar Road Title: COMPUTERIZED KNOWLEDGE Yorktown Hts, N.Y. 10598 BROKER SYSTEM

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR RESPONSE (37 CFR 1.17(a))

Commissioner of Patents

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit a Petition for Extension of Time for Response for a period of two months (37 GCFR The period for response to the Final Office Action in the above-identified application, which was expire on November 26, 2003 will now expire on January 0000 WHITTUS 40000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 40000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 40000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 40000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 4000000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 4000000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 4000000 WHITTUS 400000 WHITTUS 40000

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Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account 50-0629 in the amount of \$420.00 as payment for the two month extension.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Verdi, et al

Bv.

Anne Vachon Dougherty Registration No. 38,374 Tel. (914) 962-5910

Enclosures